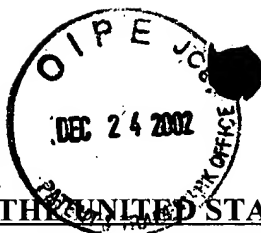


S/N 09/884,862



Pat 16
11-8-03
#8/Response
PATENT (MO.
Ext.)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Robert G. Hauser et al. Examiner: Scott M. Getzow
Serial No.: 09/884,862 Group Art Unit: 3762
Filed: June 19, 2001 Docket: 279.024US6
Title: IMPLANTABLE INTRAVENOUS CARDIAC STIMULATION SYSTEM
WITH PULSE GENERATOR HOUSING SERVING AS OPTIONAL
ADDITIONAL ELECTRODE

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

RECEIVED

DEC 31 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action dated August 16, 2002. Detailed comments to the Office Action are found in the Remarks section below.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a 1-month extension of the period for responding to the Office Action, thereby moving the deadline for response from November 16, 2002 to December 16, 2002.

REMARKS

Double Patenting Rejection

In the Office Action, claims 32 - 51 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 - 28 of U.S. Patent No. 6,280,462. A terminal disclaimer is enclosed herewith to obviate the double patenting rejection.